



Cooperating with the University of Arkansas – Division of Agriculture  
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Reporting for the week ending August 30, 2009.

General

As another cold front moved into the state during Thursday and Friday of last week, temperatures remained below normal as all 36 weather stations recorded temperatures of at least two degrees below normal. Lows ranged from 53 degrees Fahrenheit at Calico Rock to 64 degrees Fahrenheit at DeQueen. Highs ranged from 86 degrees Fahrenheit at Harrison to 95 degrees Fahrenheit at Eudora. The front brought isolated showers and thunderstorms mainly to the northwestern and southeastern parts of Arkansas. Eudora and Fayetteville received the most rain at 2.13 and 1.32 inches, respectively. The rest of the state kept dry last week, as 22 of the 36 stations received no measurable rainfall. Topsoil moisture supplies were 25 percent short, 71 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were 17 percent short, 80 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus. Farmers had almost a full week in the fields with 6.7 days suitable for fieldwork.

Crops

Producers continued to harvest high-moisture corn, soybeans, sorghum, and rice, while other rice fields were drained in preparation for harvest. Only 2 percent of the corn crop was yet to reach the dent stage by the end of the week. Corn mature jumped 21 percent to reach 77 percent, 6 percent behind 2008 and 14 percent behind the five-year average. Corn producers took advantage of the dry weather and were able to harvest an additional 12 percent of their crop last week to reach 20 percent, 5 percent ahead of last year but 20 percent behind the five-year average. Cotton in the open bolls stage, at 15 percent, was slightly behind last year but a little over a week behind the five-year average. Rice, at 88 percent headed, was 3 percent behind last year and 8 percent behind the five-year average. Rice farmers harvested 4 percent of their crop by week’s end. Sorghum coloring increased 10 percent to reach 93 percent, while sorghum reaching maturity increased 25 percent to reach 54 percent last week. Sorghum farmers harvested 5 percent of their crop by the end of the week, 2 percent ahead of last year but 25 percent behind the five-year average. The soybean crop had only 1 percent left to bloom last week, and setting pods increased 8 percent to reach 92 percent. Soybeans in the yellowing stage, at 16 percent, was 4 percent ahead of 2008 but 16 percent behind the five-year average. Soybeans reaching maturity finished at 3 percent, and producers were able to harvest 1 percent of the crop by week’s end.

Livestock

Livestock were found in fair to good condition. Producers continued to harvest hay, and pasture and range and hay crops were in fair to good condition.

Percent of Progress					
Crop	Stage	Current Week	Previous Week	2008	5-Year Avg
Corn	Dented	98	94	100	99
	Mature	77	56	83	91
	Harvested	20	8	15	40
Cotton	Opening Bolls	15	9	16	34
Rice	Headed	88	75	91	96
	Harvested	4	0	2	6
Sorghum	Coloring	93	83	92	96
	Mature	54	29	62	76
	Harvested	5	1	3	30
Soybeans	Blooming	99	97	100	100
	Setting Pods	92	84	93	97
	Yellowing	16	9	12	32
	Shedding	6	3	5	19
	Mature	3	1	2	14
	Harvested	1	0	0	7

Condition in Percentages					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	6	11	30	36	17
Cotton	4	6	30	45	15
Rice	1	6	32	44	17
Sorghum	3	9	32	45	11
Soybeans	6	13	25	39	17
Hay-Alfalfa	0	2	20	76	2
Hay-Other	2	3	30	56	9
Pasture and Range	0	4	29	59	8



